

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

Wilbur Knight,

Petitioner

Case No.: 2:24-cv-00878-APG-NJK

v.

State of Nevada, *et al.*,

Respondents

Scheduling Order

On June 5, 2024, the court granted habeas corpus petitioner Wilbur Knight's motion for appointment of counsel and appointed the Federal Public Defender ("FPD") to represent Knight. ECF No. 6. On July 8, 2024, Dawn A. Penn and Jonathan M. Kirshbaum of the FPD's office appeared on behalf of petitioner. ECF Nos. 9, 10.

I THEREFORE ORDER that counsel for petitioner meet with petitioner as soon as reasonably possible to: (a) review the procedures applicable in cases under 28 U.S.C. § 2254; (b) discuss and explore with petitioner, as fully as possible, the potential grounds for habeas corpus relief in petitioner's case; and (c) advise petitioner that all possible grounds for habeas corpus relief must be raised at this time and that the failure to do so will likely result in the omitted grounds being barred from future review under the rules regarding abuse of writ.

I FURTHER ORDER that counsel for petitioner file an amended petition for writ of habeas corpus within **90 days**, which includes all known grounds for relief (both exhausted and unexhausted).

I FURTHER ORDER that respondents file a response to the petition within **90 days** of service of the petition. Petitioner will then have **45 days** from service of the answer, motion to

1 dismiss, or other response to file a reply or opposition. Any other motions will be subject to the
2 normal briefing schedule under the local rules.

3 Any response to the petition must comport with Habeas Rule 5. Additionally:

- 4 1. Any procedural defenses raised by respondents in this case must be raised together in a
5 single, consolidated motion to dismiss. In other words, the court does not wish to address
6 any procedural defenses raised herein either in seriatum fashion in multiple successive
7 motions to dismiss or embedded in the answer. Procedural defenses omitted from the
8 motion to dismiss will be subject to potential waiver.
- 9 2. Respondents must not file a response in this case that consolidates their procedural
10 defenses, if any, with their response on the merits, except under 28 U.S.C.
11 § 2254(b)(2) as to any unexhausted claims clearly lacking merit. If respondents do seek
12 dismissal of unexhausted claims under § 2254(b)(2): (a) they must do so within the single
13 motion to dismiss, not in the answer, and (b) they must specifically direct their argument
14 to the standard for dismissal under § 2254(b)(2) set forth in *Cassett v. Stewart*, 406 F.3d
15 614, 623–24 (9th Cir. 2005). In short, no procedural defenses, including exhaustion,
16 should be included with the merits in an answer. All procedural defenses, including
17 exhaustion, must instead be raised by motion to dismiss.
- 18 3. In any answer filed on the merits, respondents must specifically cite to and address the
19 applicable state-court written decision and state-court record materials, if any, regarding
20 each claim within the response as to that claim; and
- 21 4. Respondents must file a set of state court exhibits relevant to the response filed to the
22 petition. Those exhibits must be filed chronologically and be accompanied by a separate
23 index of exhibits identifying the exhibits by number. The CM/ECF attachments that are

1 filed must be identified by the number of the exhibit in the attachment. Each exhibit must
2 be filed as a separate attachment. The purpose of this provision is to allow the court and
3 any reviewing court thereafter to quickly determine from the face of the electronic docket
4 sheet which numbered exhibits are filed in which attachments. Respondents must send a
5 hard copy of all pleadings and indices of exhibits **ONLY** filed for this case to the Clerk
6 of Court, 400 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV, 89501, directed to the attention of “Staff
7 Attorney” on the outside of the mailing address label.

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10 DATED this 10th day of July, 2024.

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13 ANDREW P. GORDON
14 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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